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"Really Wholesome Confectionery."—Loved.

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No. 11,214

四百二十一萬第一號

HONGKONG, FRIDAY, JANUARY 12TH, 1891.

五十一

年二月二十六日

Price 324 P.M. MONTH

# Hong Kong Daily Press.

ESTABLISHED 1857.

## ENTERAI MENT.

### INTIMATIONS

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**HONGKONG AND BUR DRAMATIC**  
COMPANY, will give a Performance of the Comic Opera,  
"PRINCE S. TOTO,"  
By GRIMES, and TAYLOR,  
on the following dates—  
TOM BROW (SATURDAY), JAN. 13TH, 1891.

Curtain rises at 9 P.M. precisely.

**EXTRA PERFORMANCE.**  
By SPECIAL REQUEST,  
an extra performance of  
"PRINCE S. TOTO,"  
will be given on  
TUESDAY, the 16th JANUARY, 1891,  
at 4 P.M.

Positively the last performance of this successful  
Comic Opera.

Booking Office, open at 10 A.M. on the 8th instant.

Special rates for Children.

Prices, 32, 32, 31.

Seats for any or all of the performances can be booked at MESSRS. LANE'S, 220 Queen's Road, &c. Books of the works—  
the extra price 15 cents at the Booking Office.

A LADY, an well known a figure of an hour at the tail of the season's sight.

Hongkong, 6th January, 1891.

THE GREAT OTHER SONG,  
(OR AN ALLEGORY OF VALLEY  
AND WILDERNESS).

WE KNIGHTED IN THE OLD KING ROAD,  
MIS. INERY AWKINS.

THE NEW COMIC SCENE.

THEIR RESTAURANT.

NEW SOUP, ETC.

NOTH WEEK.

POSSIBLY THE LAST.

The Young and the Old, Shanghai, Japan, Soho, &c. Start to follow.

PLACE OF ADMITION.

Private Box & Seats, per seat, \$1.50.

Second class, \$1.00.

Third class, \$0.50.

Children half price to all Non-Commissioned Officers of Her Majesty's Army and Officers of the Royal Navy.

For Ladies, \$0.25.

As the Number of Boxes is limited, early booking is necessary to avoid disappointment.

Messrs. M. N. & E. D'ARCY.

Proprietors.

E. C. CLIFFORD,

General Manager.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1891.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

HE Undersigned has received instructions

in Sale by

PUBLIC AUCTION.

TO-MORROW

(SATURDAY), the 13th JANUARY, 1891,

at 2 P.M.

at his SALE ROOM, QUEEN'S ROAD,

AN INVENTORY OF AN ANSE PLANTS

—S.S. NUNBERG."

CANELINE, DAFFIN, S. PRUNUS,

CH. & L. M. MUNOIA, S. CONIFERS,

Sticky & other Plants and LILY BULBS.

TERMS OF SALE—As customary.

J. MAR. STRONG,

Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1891.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Under-signed will sell by PUBLIC

AUCTION,

TU-MORROW

(SATURDAY), the 13th JANUARY, 1891,

at 2.30 P.M.

at his SALE ROOM, ZETLAND STREET,

SILVER PLATED, IRON PICKERS,

WINE PITCHERS, WINE CUPS, LOV-

ING CUPS, BEER MUGS, CLARET

JUGS, &c. &c.

ALSO.

A SMALL COLLECTION OF ORNA-

MENTED MANIA HILLS.

TERMS OF SALE—As customary.

F. RAPP,

Auctioneer.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1891.

AUCTION SALE

OF MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTY,

at the

SALEROOM, 17, PRAYA CENTRAL,

TO-MORROW

(SATURDAY), the 13th JANUARY, 1891,

at 2.30 P.M. prompt.

Comprising—

FANCY GOBLETS, FORTIFIED CUT-

LE, Y. GLASS, WINE WARE, TEA,

PAN Y. SOAPS, S. SOFT STORES, and

SOAPS BABY, S. NAM DATES.

Just Launched.

On view Saturday A.M.

A. E. SKELLS & CO.,

Antiquaries & Valuators.

Offices, 17, Praya Central.

Hongkong, 12th January, 1891.

THE LATENT NOVELTY IN LIFE

ASSURANCE.

TERM CONVERTIBLE POLICIES

now issued by the POSITIVE GOVERN-

MENT SECURITY LIFE ASSUR-

ANCE CO. LTD.

The Term Convertible Policies are specially

designed to meet the circumstances of pro-

fessional and business men, and will be found in

many cases the most convenient form of Life

Assurance offered to the Public.

These Policies are payable in the event of death

before age 55, or changeable for Whole Life or

Endowment Policies at the option of the As-

sured, without further Medical Examination at

any time before age 55.

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Agent for Hongkong & South China.

K. E. BING,

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always on hand.

TERMS MODERATE.

No. 18, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

Hongkong.

10th January, 1891.

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AMERICAN AND ITALIAN MARBLE,  
AND HONGKONG GRANITE.  
CEMETERY MEMORIALS.  
Designs and Prices on application.  
Office, 49, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL. 1894.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

We invite attention to our Stocks of

## CONFECTORY.

AND

## SEASONABLE GOODS.

JORDAN ALMONDS, NOUGAT, BUTTER SCOTCH, ASSORTED TOFFEES,

DRAGEES, PRALINES, and a

large selection of PURE CONFECTORY from the leading Manufacturers.

## CADBURY'S SPECIAL

## CHOCOLATE CREAMES.

PINE, APRICOT, CHERRY, LIME, GUAVA, and other FRUIT JELLIES in great variety.

## TOM SMITH'S

## CRACKERS.

COLOURED OPALS mounted in Pins, representing favourite subjects.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.

The Hongkong Dispensary.

Established A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 8th January, 1894. 20

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Only the names of reliable news columns  
will be addressed to the Editor.

Correspondents are requested to forward their names and address with communications addressed to the Editor, not for publication, but as evidence of good faith.

All letters for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.

No anonymous or secret communication, that may not be published, will be accepted.

Orders for extra copies of the *Daily Press* should be sent before 11 a.m. on the day of publication.

After that hour the supply is limited. Only Supplied on Cash.

Telephone Address, Press.

P. O. Box 20. Telephone No. 12.

The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, JANUARY 12th, 1894.

ATTENTION is once more directed to the thundrous subject of the decline of the China tea trade by the recently-issued decennial report of the Imperial Maritime Customs. The trade is no doubt capable of revival, but the probability of the necessary measures being taken to bring a revival about is not remote. What we wanted are improved methods of preparation, lighter taxation, and increased facilities for bringing the leaf from the producing districts to the port of shipment. According to Mr. Hughes's Amoy report, the high rate of taxation and heavy cost of transportation over a difficult and imperfectly developed route from the interior amount to something like 34 per cent. on the original value. Yet nothing is done, either in the way of reducing taxation or increasing the transport facilities, towards improving the chances of China tea in competition with the production of other countries. The competition of India and Ceylon has not reduced the export from Japan, and there is no reason why China tea also should not have its own except the want of adaptation to new conditions on the part of the Government, the growers, and the manufacturers. The loss of the trade seems in fact to be regarded with comparative indifference. One reason for this is the doubtfulness of the export trade as compared with the home trade in the article, so that the falling off in the former represents but a small percentage on the grand total. The Chinese are a nation of tea drinkers. The home consumption has been estimated at 800,000,000 lbs. per annum, which is probably under rather than over the mark. This large home consumption must be the explanation of the fact noted in the Amoy report, that notwithstanding the falling off in the export trade in tea, not a symptom is discernible to show that any serious difference in the welfare of the people has taken place. Mr. Hughes says: "No doubt a great many of those formerly engaged in the Amoy Tea districts have transferred their labours to North Formosa, many also have gone to swell the rising tide of emigration to Java, or the Straits; but the bulk, it may be assumed, remain on the old ground, exercising their native ingenuity and industry in extracting from their fertile soil a crop of some farm produce sufficient to meet their simple daily wants, stoically indifferent to the loss of an occupation in which they had been once supreme, and which under proper guidance and encouragement, they might still conduct with advantage to themselves and with substantial benefit to their country." Foreigners have

tried in vain to induce the Chinese to adopt foreign supervision and improved methods of preparation, by which the cost could be materially reduced, and the taste of the consuming markets better catered for. The chief handicap on China tea is, however, the heavy tax on charges to it which is subjected and the expensive transport; but the Government is apathetic in the matter, making no effort to save the trade, and even Sir Robert Hart some years ago pronounced against any reduction in the duty. Foreigners therefore can only look on helplessly while the trade dwindles away. To them the matter is a serious one, however insignificant it may appear to the Chinese. Fortunes are no longer to be made in the China tea trade, a bare living being almost all that those still engaged in it can hope to earn. There is a diminished trade, with smaller profits, and more mouths to share them. As Mr. Farago says in the Foochow report, "Owing to the diminished profits on tea, several of the large mercantile houses, keeping a number of employees were compelled to close their doors. In many cases, however, the withdrawal of large firms led to the establishment of one or two minor houses doing similar business, but on a more modest scale. Although, therefore, the extent of business now done by foreigners is fully fifty per cent. less than it was at the beginning of the decade, the numerical strength of firms is greater at present than it was ten years ago." At Foochow, at all events, whatever may have been the case at some ports, there has been no development of any other branch of commerce to make up for the tea trade, so far as foreigners are concerned. No new article of export has made its appearance, while as to the import trade, Mr. Farago tells us that "the effort to out foreigners from every branch of trade has, in the case of cotton and woollen goods, been successful; the last representative of a foreign house engaged in the piece goods trade was withdrawn prior to 1882, and the business now remains entirely in native hands." "Old Foochow," whose boast it used to be that it was "the most aristocratic port in China," seems indeed to be in a very bad way.

The P. O. steamer *Oscuria* left Singapore for this port yesterday at 10 a.m.

The French flagship *Triomphante* arrived on Wednesday evening from Nagasaki.

The O. O. steamer *Gaio*, with mails, &c., left San Francisco for this port via Yokohama on the 9th inst.

The hour of the musical performance at the Edilio Piau School to-morrow has been changed from six o'clock to four.

A special session of the Criminal Court of Tientsin is to be held at the end of this month or the beginning of February for the trial of the sixty Chinese who were arrested some time ago as accomplices of the pirates who kidnapped Messrs. Root, Boyer, and Frix.

The *Daily Times* says that Phu Yat and the men concerned in the Kiang Chieh and Kiang Kuan affairs with the French Amurante forces are expected at Hongkong during the next few days, when a court-martial will be held to enquire into the question at issue.

The increased activity noticed in the Yohkoh silk market, the *Hydro News* says, is attributed to better conditions now prevailing in France, particularly at Lyons. A late telegram received by a foreign silk exporter in Yokohama announces that Japanese silk fetched at Lyons what was equivalent to 30 or 40 dollars per oz. on the quotations at Yokohama.

The prospects of the New Balmoral Gold Mining Co., Limited, has been issued, with a covering circular signed by the managing director, D. G. Gillies, J. B. Smith, E. George, A. B. Johnson, G. Stevens, E. Osborne, and J. Orange, who "recommended this scheme, believing there is a very good prospect of success if the required capital be subscribed."

Going to an unfortunate mistake the grand assault was concluded without any further evidence being taken. Mr. E. G. Gillies, managing director, and the cross-sabre of the eight defendants were discharged and the remainder bound over in a sum of \$10 each to keep the peace for three months. Taufee was also bound over in two sureties of \$50 each to keep the peace for three months. Mr. Phillips appeared for the Portuguese and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson for the *Daily Press*.

At the Marquisat yesterday the *Taofor* assault case was concluded without any further evidence being taken. Mr. E. G. Gillies, managing director, and the cross-sabre of the eight defendants were discharged and the remainder bound over in a sum of \$10 each to keep the peace for three months. Taufee was also bound over in two sureties of \$50 each to keep the peace for three months. Mr. Phillips appeared for the Portuguese and Mr. C. D. Wilkinson for the *Daily Press*.

The police are fortunately becoming alive to the dangers of the promiscuous and unregulated traffic in our streets. A coolie for running a hawker along the wrong side of the street was yesterday fined \$5, or in default imprisonment, for not advertising his wares. A driver of a rickshaw who was caught with a rickshaw and a gun was sentenced with a penalty of \$2. There are cases which are calculated to mitigate a distinct nuisance and danger, and might almost be as frequent in the Police Court; if the police acted with energy, as the hordes of unlicensed hawkers daily brought before the Magistrate.

The following instance of wholesale confectioners is given by the Manila *Blitar*: "An ear of rice was sold at the 10th October and the 20th November last more than ten thousand and had been baptised in the district of Tigran. The Governor-General, to show his satisfaction and give another proof of his charitable sentiments, granted a special dispensation for the next year. The Bishop of Vigan also for the misfortune of the district of Agoo, the Provincial of the Augustines another \$100. The distribution of the clothing took place on the 24th and 25th December at St. Agoo, the chief place of the district. The function was an imposing one and was attended by all the plasters and the *Alcantara* masonic speech. The *Alcantara* masonic speech of the Augustines also for the misfortune of Agoo.

Dr. Meares stated that the deceased had previously suffered from dropsy, and shortly after being admitted to the Gaol he complained of being ill. Dr. Cartis also gave medical evidence and a verdict of death was given. The inquest was returned by the jury, which consisted of Mr. Harry Reeves, Mr. A. B. Macdonald, and Mr. G. von Wilts.

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